

Dear members of the Legislative Assembly of North Dakota. I am writing to you in regards to HB 1298, which, in my opinion, would have a detrimental effect on hosting sporting events in my home state of North Dakota. Both of my boys, ages 13 and 15, are avid swimmers. They have been swimming since the age of 5 and is the only sport they both love. They both have been swimming for the West Fargo Flyers club swim team for the past 4 years and my 15 year old has been swimming for West Fargo High School swim team for the past 3. They have gained many friendships while competing on these teams. They have learned discipline, teamwork, the importance of hard work, and the gift of exercise. In my opinion, if HB 1298 is passed as currently written, it will have a detrimental effect to not only swimming but to ALL sports in the state of North Dakota. If this bill passes, it will show the lack of progressiveness that this state has in regards to transgender athletes. When it comes to hosting events such as the USA Wrestling National Tournament, Speedo Sectional Swimming Tournament, or any other national sporting events in our state, teams from more progressive states are NOT going to want to support a state that does not support transgender athletes. It will not only cost our state millions of dollars but it will also set a negative message to the children in North Dakota that we do not accept transgender athletes for who they are. I also do not think we need a bill for something that is not even an issue. I think the amount of transgender athletes in our state is very small so this bill is completely unnecessary. I am writing to ask you to please vote NO on HB 1298 so high school and club sports can continue for the children of North Dakota. Without the tax dollars of out-of-state teams, high school and club sports would cease to exist in our state.

Thank you

Cody Glaser